
An End of Life Prayer

by Chaplain Joy L. Smith

This is a prayer for people who realize they are at the end of life, who feel ready and are wanting to "let go", so God can take them to their eternal reward .

These affirming words to self can best be said at bedtime just before falling asleep. Doing it each night prepares the soul for making its journey "home" to God.

Today was a good day because _____ (identify one or more things that you can be grateful for).

I'm glad for the years I have been given to live. I know life here on earth is moving toward its end for me. I welcome death as an approaching friend. I am ready for the time when I will go to God. I set my will to move gently out of my body while sleeping.

I sleep tonight open to the time for my life here on earth to end.

If tomorrow comes I will live it as well as I can, finding the gifts God has to offer within it. I will be grateful for all God has given to me.

I praise and thank God for all the goodness of life. Amen.

You may find it helpful to use the prayer below, as well, if you like.

An ancient child's prayer:

Now I lay me down to sleep.
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I awake,
I pray dear Lord my soul to take.
Amen.